

**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY**

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MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING  
*of the*  
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY  
*and the*  
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

November 24, 2003

**1. Call to order.**

The two hundred eighty seventh joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chairperson Jerome C. Daniel at 7:35 p.m. on November 24, 2003 at the Renaissance Agoura Hills Hotel, 30100 Agoura Road, Agoura Hills, California.

**2. Roll Call of Conservancy.**

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Heather Barnett, Pedro Nava, Linda Parks, Ronald P. Schafer, Woody Smeck, Jonathan Zasloff, Elizabeth Cheadle, Vice Chair and Jerome C. Daniel, Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Ed Begley, Jr., Jody Cook, Steve Horn and Hal Ross.

**3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.**

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Claudia Bill De La Peña, Caroline Brown, Dave Brown, Ed Corridori, Heinz Ellersieck, Richard Gould, Mark Johnson, Alan Kishbaugh, Linda Palmer, Anthony Portantino, Barry Read, Paul Rockenstein, Bruce Saito, Dennis Seider, Thomas Seifert, Lorraine Slattery, Nancy Stephens, Marc Stirdivant and George Lange, Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Lesley Devine, Terre Hirsch, Roseann Mikos, Liane Weintraub and Don Robinson, Vice Chair. The following members were present subsequent to roll call: Michael Cacciotti and Timothy Wendler.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, Executive Director, FAICP; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Director; Laurie Collins, Chief Counsel; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; MRCA staff: Reva Feldman, Deputy Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer; Amy Lethbridge, Deputy Executive Officer for Education, Interpretation, and Urban

Programs; Kathleen Bullard, Chief of Watershed Division; Walt Young, Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction; Lisa Soghor, Chief of Premier Parks; Gary Lysik, Finance Director; Katherine Chew, Staff Counsel; Deborah Lambe, Staff Counsel; Juliet Chung, Government Program Analyst; Jan Wolterstorff, Public Outreach Coordinator and Project Analyst; Simon Macguire, PC Support Technician; Melissa Chigaridas, JPA Secretary and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

**4. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.**

The Chair announced that Laura Plotkin and Mary Sue Maurer were present. The following legislative participants were absent: George Magallanes, Caroline Kraft, and Susan McEntire.

**5. Approval of Minutes.**

No minutes were heard.

**6. Reports.**

The Conservancy and the Advisory Committee received verbal reports from the Chairperson, the Coastal Commission representative, the National Park Service representative, the State Parks representative, the Executive Director, the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning, the Deputy Executive Officer for Education, Interpretation, and Urban Programs, the Chief Ranger, the Chief of Operations, and the Chief of Construction.

**7. Special recognition of former Advisory Committee member Kenneth Warner.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Mr. Warner.

**8. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.**

Comments were made by Advisory Committee member Ed Corridori.

**9. Comments from members of the public on items not on the agenda and public testimony on all agenda items.**

The following persons addressed the Conservancy:

Mr. Doug McIntyre, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Agnes Peterson, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Mary Olk, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Dixies Moore, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Mr. William N. Weeger, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Wendy Rosen, representing the Upper Mandeville Canyon Association, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Darice Richman Cooper, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Mr. Arnold Newman, representing the International Society for Preservation of Tropical Rainforests, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Kathi Flood, representing HOA, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Nancy Baker, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Joan Luchs, representing the Cahuenga Pass Neighborhood Association, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Penny Peyser, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Mr. John Stockdale, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Mr. Tom Bates, representing Concerned Citizens for Property Rights, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Helen Itria Norman, representing the Tarzana Property Owners Association, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Elizabeth Tigar, representing the Tarzana Property Owners Association, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Rosalyn Nelson, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Mr. John Licursi, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Pam Cooke, representing Residents of Beverly Glen, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Mr. Gordon Murley, representing the Woodland Hills Howowners Association.

Mr. Jerry Crumb, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Mr. T. Keith Gurnee, representing the City of Agoura Hills, on items 16 and 17.

Mr. Don Mullally, representing the Santa Clarita Woodlands Park Consortium, on item 11.

Ms. Rosemary Woodlock, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Mr. Wayne Spindler, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Caroline H. Atchinson, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Ms. Jill Nettman, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

Mr. Desmond McDonald, as an individual, on the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Districts.

**10. Consent Calender:**

- (a) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept a conservation easement over a portion of property at 3535 Multiview Drive, Los Angeles.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept a conservation easement over a portion of properties at 3009, 3025 and 3043 Ellington Drive as part of Parcel Map No. 5588, Los Angeles.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Sun Valley Watershed Plan, Los Angeles.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority apply for Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program grants.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority apply for Murray-Hayden grant funds in the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 12 funds to Stuart M. Ketchum Downtown YMCA for the Vista Hermosa project, Los Angeles.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 12 funds to the**

- Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the Vista Hermosa project, Los Angeles.**
- (h) Consideration of resolution authorizing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to use the Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Contingency Fund to acquire properties within Chapter 8 Agreement No. 2142 within Santa Monica Mountains Open Preservation District Nos. 1 and 2, Los Angeles.**
  - (i) Consideration of resolution authorizing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to use the Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Contingency Fund to make payments on Chalk Hills (APNs 2166-013-015 and 016); Cerrillos Drive (APNs 2170-001-029, 030 and 031); Coldwater Canyon Lane (APN 2385-023-014), and dirt Mulholland (APNs 2172-032-005, 006, 007 and 008) properties, Los Angeles.**
  - (j) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to acquire properties within Chapter 8 Agreement Nos. 2144 and 2185 in the San Gabriel Mountains, Verdugo Mountains, and Mount Washington, Los Angeles.**
  - (k) Consideration of resolution authorizing a nonprofit matching grant of Proposition 40 funds to New Schools Better Neighborhoods for a joint use park development project, Los Angeles.**
  - (l) Consideration of resolution adopting a letter of support for the Ventura County Open Space District Advisory Committee recommendations.**

At the request of Mr. Lange, item 10(j) was removed from the Consent Calendar.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:**

On motion of Mr. Johnson, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 03-189, 03-190, 03-191, 03-192, 03-193, 03-193, 03-194, 03-195, 03-196, 03-197, 03-199, and 03-200.

**CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:**

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 03-189, 03-190, 03-191, 03-192, 03-193, 03-194, 03-194, 03-195, 03-196, 03-197, 03-199, and 03-200 were unanimously adopted.

- 10(j). Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to acquire properties within Chapter 8 Agreement Nos. 2144 and 2185 in the San Gabriel Mountains, Verdugo Mountains, and Mount Washington,**

**Los Angeles.**

The Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning presented the staff report.

Comments were made by Mr. Lange.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Kishbaugh, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-198.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, Resolution No. 03-198 was unanimously adopted.

**11. Presentation on Simi Fire, Santa Susana Mountains.**

The Conservancy received a verbal report from the Chief Ranger.

**12. Consideration of resolution waiving first right of refusal pursuant to Section 33207 of the Public Resources Code on all or a portion of existing Los Angeles County surplus properties in the Sylvia Park area, Topanga Canyon.**

The Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning presented the staff report.  
Questions were propounded to staff by Ms. Palmer.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-201.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, Resolution No. 03-201 was unanimously adopted.

**13. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority sell to the California Department of Parks and Recreation 160 acres, County Certificate of Compliance Parcel CC-90-1052 (portion of APN 4448-030-024) located in Tuna Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

- 14. Consideration of resolution (a) authorizing the addition of San Gabriel and Sierra Pelona Mountains Connector to the Conservancy Acquisition 2000 Workprogram; (b) authorizing the addition of said project along with Santa Clara River Wildlife Corridor, Newhall Pass Wildlife Corridor - Remainder, and Rocky Peak Adjacent Southport to the Initial Workprogram for the Safe Neighborhood Parks Act of 1996, and (c) recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority enter into a Project Agreement with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District to acquire properties within each project, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-204.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, Resolution No. 03-204 was unanimously adopted.

- 15. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Agoura Hills on the Notice of Preparation for the Agoura Village Strategic Plan, Agoura Road.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

Mr. Corridori was noted as abstaining from this item.

On motion of Mr. Rockenstein, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-205.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, Resolution No. 03-205 was unanimously adopted.

- 16. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of transfer of property (APN 2061-002-907) totaling approximately 80 acres from the City of Agoura Hills, Ladyface Mountain, Agoura Hills.**

Comments were made by Ms. Palmer.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-206.

Comments were made by Ms. Parks and the Chief Deputy Director.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, Resolution No. 03-206 was unanimously adopted.

- 17. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority authorize acceptance of transfer of properties (APNs 2061-001-902, 2061-033-905, 2055-025-900, 2055-001-028, 2061-002-906) totaling approximately 249 acres from the City of Agoura Hills, Ladyface Mountain and Palo Comado Canyon, Agoura Hills.**

The Executive Director presented the staff report.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-207.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, Resolution No. 03-207 was unanimously adopted.

- 18. Consideration of resolution authorizing receipt of grant from the United States Army Corps of Engineers and directing all or a portion of said grant to TreePeople, a tax exempt nonprofit organization, for development of the Center for Community Forestry, Coldwater Canyon Park, Los Angeles.**

The Chief of Watershed Division presented the staff report.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Saito, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-208.



Comments were made by Mr. Schafer.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, Resolution No. 03-207 was unanimously adopted.

**19. Consideration of resolution adopting the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy FY 02-03 annual report.**

At the request of the Chair, this item was postponed to a later date.

**20. Closed Session: (The Conservancy may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A), Section 11126.3(a), and Section 11126 Subdivision (e) of the Government Code. Confidential memoranda related to the following items may be considered during such closed session discussions.) Discussion and possible action regarding pending and/or potential litigation: *York v. City of Los Angeles; City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission; Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Soka University of America, and related cross-complaint: Soka University of America v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.***

No closed session was held.

**21. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on December 16, 2003. There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

  
JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP  
Executive Director

Approved: 

JEROME C. DANIEL  
Chairperson